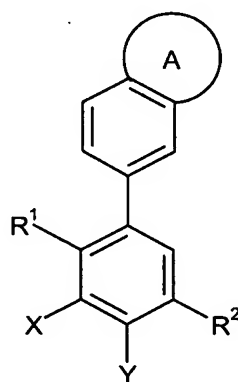


Amendments to the claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (original) A compound of formula (I):



(I)

wherein

A is a fused 5-membered heteroaryl ring substituted by $-(CH_2)_m$ heterocyclyl wherein the heterocyclyl is a 5- or 6-membered heterocyclic ring containing one or two heteroatoms independently selected from oxygen, sulfur and nitrogen optionally substituted by up to two substituents independently selected from oxo, C₁₋₆alkyl, $-(CH_2)_n$ phenyl, -OR³, $-(CH_2)_n$ CO₂R³, -NR³R⁴ and -CONR³R⁴, and

A is optionally further substituted by one substituent selected from -OR³, halogen, trifluoromethyl, -CN, -CO₂R³ and C₁₋₆alkyl optionally substituted by hydroxy;

R¹ is selected from methyl and chloro;

R² is selected from -NH-CO-R⁵ and -CO-NH-(CH₂)_q-R⁶;

R³ and R⁴ are each independently selected from hydrogen and C₁₋₆alkyl;

R⁵ is selected from hydrogen, C₁₋₆alkyl, $-(CH_2)_q$ -C₃₋₇cycloalkyl, trifluoromethyl, $-(CH_2)_r$ heteroaryl optionally substituted by R⁷ and/or R⁸, and $-(CH_2)_r$ phenyl optionally substituted by R⁷ and/or R⁸;

R⁶ is selected from hydrogen, C₁₋₆alkyl, C₃₋₇cycloalkyl, -CONHR⁹, phenyl optionally substituted by R⁷ and/or R⁸, and heteroaryl optionally substituted by R⁷ and/or R⁸;

R⁷ is selected from C₁₋₆alkyl, C₁₋₆alkoxy, $-(CH_2)_q$ -C₃₋₇cycloalkyl, -CONR⁹R¹⁰, -NHCOR¹⁰, halogen, -CN, $-(CH_2)_s$ NR¹¹R¹², trifluoromethyl, phenyl

optionally substituted by one or more R⁸ groups, and heteroaryl optionally substituted by one or more R⁸ groups;

R⁸ is selected from C₁₋₆alkyl, C₁₋₆alkoxy, halogen, trifluoromethyl, and -(CH₂)_sNR¹¹R¹²;

R⁹ and R¹⁰ are each independently selected from hydrogen and C₁₋₆alkyl, or

R⁹ and R¹⁰, together with the nitrogen atom to which they are bound, form a 5- or 6-membered heterocyclic ring optionally containing one additional heteroatom selected from oxygen, sulfur and N-R¹³, wherein the ring may be substituted by up to two C₁₋₆alkyl groups;

R¹¹ is selected from hydrogen, C₁₋₆alkyl and -(CH₂)_q-C₃₋₇cycloalkyl optionally substituted by C₁₋₆alkyl,

R¹² is selected from hydrogen and C₁₋₆alkyl, or

R¹¹ and R¹², together with the nitrogen atom to which they are bound, form a 5- or 6-membered heterocyclic ring optionally containing one additional heteroatom selected from oxygen, sulfur and N-R¹³;

R¹³ is selected from hydrogen and methyl;

X and Y are each independently selected from hydrogen, methyl and halogen;

m and q are each independently selected from 0, 1 and 2;

n and r are each independently selected from 0 and 1; and

s is selected from 0, 1, 2 and 3;

with the proviso that:

A is not substituted by -(CH₂)_mNR¹⁴R¹⁵ wherein R¹⁴ and R¹⁵, together with the nitrogen atom to which they are bound, form a 5- or 6-membered heterocyclic ring optionally containing one additional heteroatom selected from oxygen, sulphur and NR¹⁶ wherein R¹⁶ is hydrogen or methyl,

when m is 0, the -(CH₂)_mheterocyclyl group is not a 5- or 6-membered heterocyclyl ring containing nitrogen optionally substituted by C₁₋₂alkyl or -(CH₂)_nCO₂R³, and

the compound of formula (I) is not 1,1-dimethylethyl 4-(6-{5-[(cyclopropylamino)carbonyl]-2-methylphenyl}-1,2-benzisoxazol-3-yl)-1-piperazinecarboxylate;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof.

2. (original) A compound according to claim 1 wherein A is a fused 5-membered heteroaryl ring containing two heteroatoms independently selected from oxygen and nitrogen.

3. (currently amended) A compound according to claim 1 ~~or claim 2~~ wherein A is substituted by -(CH₂)_mheterocyclyl wherein the heterocyclyl is a 5- or 6-membered

ring containing one or two heteroatoms independently selected from oxygen and nitrogen optionally substituted by up to two substituents independently selected from oxo, C₁₋₆alkyl, -(CH₂)_nphenyl, -OR³, -(CH₂)_nCO₂R³, -NR³R⁴ and -CONR³R⁴.

4. (currently amended) A compound according to claim 1 ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ wherein R¹ is methyl.

5. (currently amended) A compound according to claim 1 ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ wherein R² is -CO-NH-(CH₂)_q-R⁶.

6. (currently amended) A compound according to claim 1 ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ wherein X is fluorine.

7. (original) A compound according to claim 1 substantially as hereinbefore defined with reference to any one of Examples 1 to 9, or a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof.

8. (original) A compound selected from:

N-cyclopropyl-3-fluoro-4-methyl-5-[1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-2-ylmethyl)-1*H*-indazol-5-yl]benzamide;

N-cyclopropyl-3-fluoro-4-methyl-5-[1-(tetrahydro-2-furanylmethyl)-1*H*-indazol-5-yl]benzamide; and

3-{1-[(4-benzylmorpholin-2-yl)methyl]-1*H*-indazol-5-yl}-*N*-cyclopropyl-5-fluoro-4-methylbenzamide,

or a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof.

9. (currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising at least one compound as claimed in claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1 to 8~~, or a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof, in association with one or more pharmaceutically acceptable excipients, diluents and/or carriers.

10. (currently amended) A compound according to claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1 to 8~~, or a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof, for use in therapy.

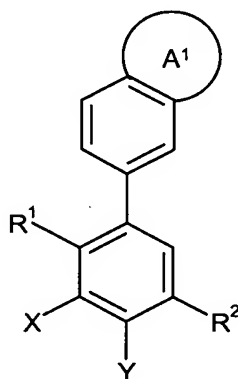
11. (currently amended) A compound as claimed in claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1 to 8~~, or a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof, for use in the treatment or prophylaxis of a condition or disease state mediated by p38 kinase activity or mediated by cytokines produced by the activity of p38 kinase.

12. (currently amended) A method for treating a condition or disease state mediated by p38 kinase activity or mediated by cytokines produced by the activity of p38 kinase comprising administering to a patient in need thereof a compound as claimed in any claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1 to 8~~, or a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof.

13. (cancelled)

14. (currently amended) A process for preparing a compound of formula (I) as claimed in claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1 to 8~~, or a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof, which comprises:

(a) reacting a compound of formula (II)



(II)

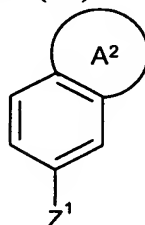
in which R¹, R², X and Y are as defined in claim 1 and A¹ is an unsubstituted fused 5-membered heteroaryl ring, with a halide derivative of formula (III)



(III)

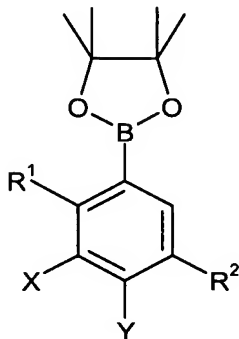
in which $-(CH_2)_m\text{heterocyclyl}$ is as defined in claim 1 and Z is halogen, in the presence of a base;

(b) reacting a compound of formula (IV)

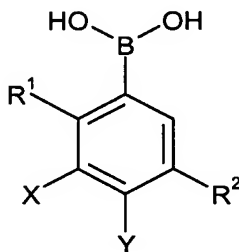


(IV)

in which A^2 is A as defined in claim 1 or a protected form of A or A^1 , and Z^1 is halogen,
with a compound of formula (VA) or (VB)



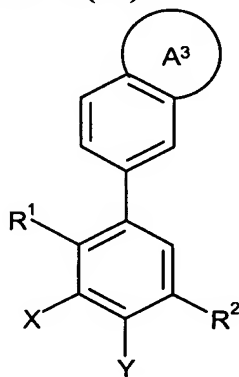
(VA)



(VB)

in which R^1 , R^2 , X and Y are as defined in claim 1,
in the presence of a catalyst;

(c) reacting a compound of formula (XI)



(XI)

in which R^1 , R^2 , X and Y are as defined in claim 1 and A^3 is a fused 5-membered heteroaryl ring substituted by $-(CH_2)_m$ heterocyclyl wherein the heterocyclyl is unsubstituted, with a suitable reagent; or

(d) final stage modification of one compound of formula (I) as defined in claim 1 to give another compound of formula (I) as defined in claim 1.

15. (new) A compound according to claim 2 wherein A is substituted by $-(CH_2)_m$ heterocyclyl wherein the heterocyclyl is a 5- or 6-membered ring containing one or two heteroatoms independently selected from oxygen and nitrogen optionally substituted by up to two substituents independently selected from oxo, C_{1-6} alkyl, $-(CH_2)_n$ phenyl, $-OR^3$, $-(CH_2)_nCO_2R^3$, $-NR^3R^4$ and $-CONR^3R^4$.

16. (new) A compound according to claim 15 wherein R^1 is methyl.

17. (new) A compound according to claim 15 wherein R^2 is $-CO-NH-(CH_2)_q-R^6$.

18. (new) A compound according to claim 15 wherein X is fluorine.